

(Ireland.)

A

B I L L

[AS AMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE]

To dissolve the Corporation of the *Royal Canal* Company in *Ireland*; and to appoint Commissioners for enquiring into and examining the Claims of the Creditors of the said Company, and other matters relating to the said Company; and to provide for carrying on and completing the Canal from *Dublin* to *Tarmonbury*, on the River *Shannon*.

Note.—The Figures in the Margin denote the number of the Pages in the written Copy.

- 1 * * * * * **DECLARATION**, on an Enquiry made before a Committee of the Honourable House of Commons of the United Kingdom, **THAT** it has been made appear, that several of the Rules, Regulations, Provisions and Conditions, in the Charter of Incorporation granted to the *Royal Canal* Company by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of *Ireland*, bearing date the first day of October, in the twenty-ninth year of His present Majesty's Reign, for the purpose of completing a navigable Canal from *Dublin* to *Tarmonbury* on the River *Shannon* in *Ireland*, have been neglected, abused, transgressed and violated, by the said Company; and that the said Company is wholly insolvent, and unable to pay the Debts due to the Creditors of the said Company; and it is therefore deemed expedient, that all powers and authorities given to the said Company as a Corporation by the said Charter or otherwise, should cease and determine;

Provision in the Charter to Royal Canal Company, dated 29 Oct. 29 Geo. III. violated by the said Company.

Be it therefore Enacted by The KING's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, THAT from and after the expiration of Twenty-

The said
Royal Canal
Company shall
continue to be a
Corporation,
and shall be
dissolved.

one-days after the passing of this Act, the said *Royal Canal Company* shall cease to be a Corporation, and shall be and the same is hereby declared to be dissolved; and all powers and authorities whatsoever, vested by the said Charter, or by any Law, Statute or Usage whatsoever, in the said Company as a Corporation, or in any directors, officers, servants, agents or other persons employed, appointed or authorized by the said Company, shall, from and after the expiration of Twenty-one days after the passing of this Act, cease and determine, and shall be and they are hereby declared to be null and void.

The Canal,
and all Locks,
Docks and
Piers, and all
Tolls, and all
Property of the
said Company,
shall, during the
Act, be vested in the
Directors of
Inland Navigation
in Ireland,
appointed under
40 Geo. III.
c. 51, with
Remedies for
recovering the
same.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That from and after the expiration of Twenty-one days next after the passing of this Act, the said Canal and Navigation, and all Off-branches of the same, and all Cuts or Canals communicating with the same, and all Lands Tenements and Hereditaments, and all Docks, Wharfs, Locks, Engines, Machines, Houses, Buildings, Warehouses and Tenements, and all Boats, Barges and Vessels whatever, which immediately before the passing of this Act were vested in or possessed or occupied by the said *Royal Canal Company*, and all Furniture which has been provided by the said Company for the use of the Persons inhabiting or using any such House, Warehouse, Building or Premises; and also, all Tolls Rates and Duties imposed by the said *Royal Canal Company*, and being and remaining vested in the said Company immediately before the passing of this Act; and all Rents, Annuities or other Income, and all Arrears thereof due and payable, or which shall hereafter become due and payable; and all and every sum and sums of Money, Debts and Dues, Goods, Chattels, Property, Claims, Materials, and things whatever, which the said *Royal Canal Company*, or any Director, Treasurer or other Officer, or any Proprietor of the said Company, as such Director, Treasurer or other Officer or Proprietor, are or shall or may be in anywise seized or possessed of or entitled unto, under or by virtue of the said Charter, or in right of the Office held by such Director, Treasurer or other Officer, or by virtue of any Act or Acts in force in *Ireland*, or of any Contract or Bargain whatsoever for the purpose of the said Navigation, at the time of the passing of this Act, shall, from and immediately after the expiration of Twenty-one days next after the passing of this Act, be and become, and the same are hereby vested and declared to be vested in the "Directors of all Works relating to Inland Navigation in *Ireland*," appointed or to be appointed under and by virtue of an Act made in the Parliament of *Ireland* in the fortieth year of His present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for granting to His Majesty the sum of Five hundred thousand Pounds, for promoting Inland Navigation in *Ireland*, and for other purposes therein mentioned, and for authorizing the raising of the said sum by Loan;" and the same shall continue vested in the said Directors, usually called "The Directors General of Inland Navigation," during the continuance of this Act, and until further provision shall be made by some Act or Acts of Parliament respecting the same; and the said Directors General of Inland Navigation shall have and be entitled to all such remedies for recovering the said Tolls Rates and Duties, and all such Debts, Dues, Claims,

40 Geo. III.
(1) c. 51.

Claims, and Demands, sum and sums of Money whatsoever, as by the said Charter of the said *Royal Canal Company*, or by any Act or Acts in force in *Ireland*, or by any Law Usage or Custom whatsoever, are given or provided for receiving and recovering by the said *Royal Canal Company*, or the Directors or Officers of the same, all Tolls Rates and Duties imposed by the said *Royal Canal Company*, or for the recovery of any such Debts, Dues, Claims or Demands, sum or sums of Money whatsoever, respectively.

- And be it further Enacted, That the said Directors General of Inland Navigation shall, during the continuance of this Act, and until further provision shall be made by some Act or Acts of Parliament to be passed for that purpose, have full power and authority to carry into execution and to complete the said Navigation between the City of *Dublin* and the said Town of *Tarmonbarney* on the River *Slawson*, and all Canals, Cuts, Off-Branches, Locks, Docks and other Works relating to the said Navigation, and to apply all and every the Tolls, Rates, Duties, Rents, Revenues, Sum and Sums of Money, Goods Chattels and Effects, by this Act vested in the said Directors General of Inland Navigation as aforesaid, for and towards the managing, maintaining, conducting, carrying on and completing the said Navigation, and to order direct and manage, design make and do all matters and things whatsoever, in upon and about the said Navigation; and all the Canals, Cuts, Off-Branches, Locks, Docks and other Works relating thereto, as the said Directors General of Inland Navigation shall think proper and expedient, in the same manner as the said *Royal Canal Company* or the Directors thereof might or could have done before the passing of this Act; and that all and every the powers and authorities which were heretofore by the said Charter, or by any Law or Laws, Act or Acts in force in *Ireland*, granted to, vested in, or executed by the said *Royal Canal Company*, shall, from and after the expiration of Twenty-one days after the passing of this Act, be and the same are hereby vested in the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, for the purposes of this Act, as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes as all such powers and authorities were heretofore granted to, exercised by, or vested in the said *Royal Canal Company*, or in the Directors or Proprietors thereof respectively, and as if the same were repeated and enacted in this present Act: Subject nevertheless to such orders and instructions, for regulating the conduct and duty of the said Directors General in the execution of this Act, as may from time to time be given by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being.

And be it further Enacted, That if at any time after the passing of this Act any sum or sums of Money shall be granted by the Authority of Parliament, for the purpose of carrying on or completing the said Navigation from *Dublin* to *Tarmonbarney*, such sum or sums of Money shall be remitted and paid to the said Directors General of Inland Navigation in *Ireland*, or to their order, and shall by them be paid expended and applied in and about the carrying on and completing the said Navigation, at such times, in such manner, and under such orders,

303.

directions

All Powers and Authorities of the *Royal Canal Company* shall be vested in the Directors General of Inland Navigation.

Subject to Order of Lord Lieutenant under 40 Geo. III. c. 33. s. 18.

Sum to be granted by Parliament for carrying on the said Navigation, shall be applied by the Directors General, under Orders of Lord Lieutenant.

directions and restrictions, for insuring the due application of such Money of the said Navigation, as the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of Ireland for the time being, shall think fit to direct said appoint.

Appoint-
ment of Lord Super-
intendents of
said Naviga-
tion, without
Reward.

AND whereas it may in some cases be found expedient that there should be Assistants to the said Directors in the management of the said Navigation hereby vested in the said Directors General of Inland Navigation; BE it Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Directors General, if they shall think fit, from time to time to nominate and appoint, without salary or reward, any Person or Persons who may be interested in the prosperity of the said Navigation and as shall appear to the said Directors to be proper to be such Assistants, and with such powers and authorities as such Directors shall think fit; and such Persons shall and may exercise such powers and authorities in respect to the said Navigation as the said Directors shall authorize them respectively to exercise: Provided always, that the said Directors may from time to time remove such Persons, so appointed by them to be Superintendents of the said Navigation.

Such Super-
intendents may
be removed
by Directors.

Company shall
del. up their
Books, &c.
to the said
Directors Ge-
neral, and pay
any Money,
&c. as laid.

And be it further Enacted, That the said *Royal Canal Company*, and all and every Director or Directors, Treasurer or Treasurers, Clerks, Officers and other Persons, appointed by or employed under the said Company, shall, within Twenty-one days after the passing of this Act, or whenever they or any of them shall be thereto required by the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, deliver up to the said Directors General, or to such Person or Persons as they shall nominate and appoint to receive the same; all Books, Deeds, Bills, Bonds, Contracts, Securities, Accounts, Papers, Maps, Plans, and Writings whatsoever, relating to the said Canal, and the carrying on and managing of the same, which the said Company, or the Directors, Clerks or Officers of the said Company, or any other Person or Persons employed or who may have been employed by or in trust for the said Company, or for the said Directors, Clerks or Officers, have or hath in his or their custody, power or possession; and that all and every Persons and Person, being or having been Directors or a Director, Treasurer or Treasurer, or Officers or Officer of the said *Royal Canal Company*, shall, when thereto required by the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, make and render to the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, a full, true and particular account of all sum and sums of Money, Stocks, Funds, Bills, Bonds, Notes and other Securities whatsoever, at any time in the hands, custody, power or possession, or standing in the name or names of any such Director, Treasurer, or other Officer respectively, or any Person or Persons in trust for him them or any of them respectively, and any way belonging, relating to or concerning the said *Royal Canal Company*, and shall if required, make Oath before the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, or any one of them (which Oath such Director General or any One of them are hereby empowered to administer) to the truth of such Account; and shall also pay over and transfer to the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, or to such Person or Persons and in such

manner

12 manner and at such time or times as the said Directors General shall direct and appoint, all said every such sum and sums of Money, Stocks, Funds, Bills, Bonds, Notes or other Securities respectively, as shall appear to be in the hands, custody, power, possession, name or names of such Director, Treasurer, Officer or other Person or Persons respectively, or any Person or Persons in trust for him or them or any of them as aforesaid.

Provided always, and be it further Enacted, That the several Officers, Clerks, Servants, Engineers, and other Persons who have been appointed or continued in their respective offices, or have been engaged or employed in the service of the said Royal Canal Company, pursuant to the powers given to them by Law, and who shall be in possession of their offices or employments at the time of the passing of this Act, shall and may (until they shall be removed in manner hereinafter mentioned, or shall resign, or die) continue to act in all matters and things which shall appertain or belong to the conduct and management of the said Navigation, according to their respective Departments, and with the same salaries and emoluments respectively: Provided always, that it shall and may be lawful for the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, during the continuance of this Act, from time to time, with the approbation of the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of Ireland for the time being, to remove, if they shall think fit, all or any of the said Officers, Clerks or Servants, and to appoint one or more Person or Persons in their room; and also, with the approbation of the Lord High Treasurer of Ireland, or the Commissioners for executing the said office of Lord High Treasurer, or any Three of them, to vary the Salaries and Emoluments of such Officers and others respectively, as the said Commissioners of Inland Navigation shall in their discretion, and with such approbation as aforesaid, judge fit and expedient.

And be it further Enacted, That the said Directors General of Inland Navigation shall, from and after the expiration of Twenty-one days after the passing of this Act, and during the continuance of the same, and until some further provision shall be made by some Act or Acts of Parliament to be passed for that purpose, be subject and liable to all claims and demands whatsoever, to which the said Royal Canal Company are or may be subject and liable; and that all Actions and Suits which shall have been brought and instituted, either by or against the said Company, and which shall be depending at the time of the passing of this Act, may be continued and carried on by or against the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, in the same manner as such Actions or Suits might have been carried on against the said Company, if this Act had not been made, subject nevertheless to the provisions in this Act contained.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That no execution to be issued in or by reason of any Action or Actions, to be commenced or prosecuted against the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, under or by virtue of this Act, shall affect any Property which is or shall

Primer Clerks and Officers to remove, until removed by Directors of Inland Navigation, who may appoint others.

Debts made liable to Claims and Actions continued against the Company.

Express General rule only for Property vested in them under the Act.

Directors General may
sue Proceedings in
Actions against them.

shall or may be vested in the said Directors General, save only the Property vested in them by this Act, or under or by means of the provisions thereof; and provided also, that in any Action which shall have been commenced against the said *Royal Canal Company*, at any time before the passing of this Act, and which may be carried on against the said Directors General, or which shall or may be commenced against the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, at any time after the passing of this Act, and during the continuance of the same, for or in respect of any Claim or Demand against or relating to the said *Royal Canal Company*, it shall and may be lawful for the Directors General of Inland Navigation, to apply to the Court in which any such Action shall have been or shall be brought or carried on, during the sitting of such Court, or to any Judge of such Court during vacation, for Stay of Proceedings in such Action; and such Court and such Judge respectively are hereby required to stay such Proceedings accordingly, during the continuance of this Act. 16

Expedient to
appoint Commissioners of
Enquiry as to
misconduct of
Directors, &c.
of the Royal
Canal Com-
pany.

AND whereas on the said Enquiry before the Committee of the Honourable House of Commons, it has been made appear, that great irregularities and abuses have taken place in the conducting the business and concerns of the said *Royal Canal Company*, by the Directors of the said Company and others, to the injury as well of the Creditors or Loanholders, as of the Proprietors or Stockholders of the said Company; and it is expedient that a full Enquiry should be made with respect to all such irregularities and abuses, and into the legality and validity of the Debts of the several Persons now claiming to be Creditors of the said Company; BE it therefore Enacted, That *James Hale*, Esquire, *Thomas Fargiter Dickson*, Esquire, and *John Smith*, Esquire, shall be and they are hereby appointed to be Commissioners for making the Enquiries intended and directed by this Act, as hereinafter provided.

In case of Vacancy, Lord Lieutenant may appoint new Commissioners, &c.

And be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being, during the continuance of this Act, from time to time to appoint one or more Person or Persons in the place or stead of any such Commissioner or Commissioners of Enquiry, who may die, or refuse to act; and all and every Person and Persons so to be appointed, shall be and is and are hereby invested with the same Powers for making the Enquiries directed by this Act, as the Person or Persons in whose place or stead he or they shall be so appointed, was or were invested with. 17

Quorum.

And be it further Enacted, That all the Powers by this Act vested in the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, and in the Commissioners of Enquiry appointed or to be appointed by virtue of this Act, shall and may from time to time be exercised by the majority of such Directors and Commissioners respectively; and all Acts, Orders and Proceedings of such Directors and Commissioners respectively, or the majority of them, shall have the same force and effect as if done or made by all the said Directors or Commissioners respectively. 18

And

And be it further Enacted, That the said Commissioners of Enquiry, so appointed or to be appointed under or by virtue of this Act, shall and may, and they are hereby authorized and required to examine into and investigate all improper Practices, Irregularities and Abuses, and other Misconduct, which have taken place in the execution of the powers and authorities which were given to the said *Royal Canal Company* by any charter, law or usage, or otherwise howsoever, or which have been practised or committed by the Directors of the said Company, or by any Officer or Officers of the said Company, or by any Person or Persons who now are or have been concerned, employed or engaged, in managing, conducting or transacting the business of the said Company; and also how far the Proprietors or Stockholders of the said Company are individually implicated in or answerable for any Irregularities, Abuses, or Misconduct of such Directors; and also how and in what manner the several Persons being or claiming to be Proprietors or Stockholders of the said Company, at the time of the passing of this Act, became possessed of or entitled to such Stock or Property in the said Company, whether by original subscription or by subsequent purchase, or by devise or otherwise, and the Consideration paid by all the said Persons respectively, or by the Persons under whom they claim, for such Stock or Property in the said Company; and also to enquire how and in what manner the several Persons being or claiming to be Creditors of the said Company or Loanholders, or Holders of any Loan Debentures or other Securities from the said Company, became such Creditors, or became possessed of or entitled to such Loan Debentures or other Securities; and whether all or any, and which of such Persons, originally advanced the Money for which such Loan Debentures or other Securities were originally issued, and upon what terms, and what money or other consideration was actually paid, given or advanced, by such Persons, or by those under whom they claim; or whether such Persons purchased such Loan Debentures, and at what price and for what consideration; and such Commissioners of Enquiry are also hereby authorized and empowered to examine into and investigate all such other matters and things whatsoever as shall or may be referred to them by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland*, for the time being, for the purpose of obtaining a full and perfect knowledge of the whole state of the Affairs and Concerns, Debts, Credits and Engagements, of the said Company, and of the legal and equitable Claims of the Proprietors or Stockholders, and of the Creditors or Loanholders of the said Company respectively.

- 21 And be it further Enacted, That the said Commissioners of Enquiry under this Act, shall from time to time report, and certify their Proceedings in writing under their hands and seals to the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being, specifying how far the persons being or claiming to be Stockholders in or Subscribers to the said Company, or any or which of them are or have been individually implicated in the misconduct, irregularities and abuses committed by the Directors of the said Company, and how far any of the said Subscribers or Stockholders are or

may

Commissioners of Enquiry shall examine into Mismanagement of the Royal Canal Company, and its Commissioners, &c.

Such Commissioners of Enquiry shall report their Proceedings to Lord Lieutenant.

may be innocent sufferers by such misconduct of such Directors; and in like manner how far the Persons who claim to be Creditors or Loan-holders of the said Company are *bona fide* Creditors of the said Company, and to what amount; and the said Commissioners of Enquiry shall add to such Report, all such other observations, suggestions, plans, matters and things, as may or shall occur to them, or as may appear to the said Commissioners of Enquiry to be fitting and expedient, or as may be required of them by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being: Provided always, 22
that any and every Report which shall be so made by the said Commissioners of Enquiry to the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being, shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament, within Fourteen Days after any such Report shall be made, if Parliament shall be then sitting, or else within One Month after the then next meeting of Parliament.

First and other
Messengers of
Parliament.

And be it further Enacted, That the first Meeting of the said Commissioners of Enquiry appointed by this Act, shall be held within Thirty Days next after the passing of this Act; and that the said Commissioners of Enquiry shall meet at least Four days in each week, for carrying into execution the Enquiry intended by this Act; and at such other days and times as shall from time to time be appointed, and shall proceed in such Enquiry under such Orders and Directions as may be from time to time given by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being: Provided always, that the said Commissioners may adjourn to such time or times as shall be directed by the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being.

Oath of Com-
missioners.

And be it further Enacted, That the said Commissioners of Enquiry shall, before they proceed to execute the purposes of this Act, take and subscribe the following Oath:

" I, A. B. do swear, That, according to the best of my skill and
" knowledge, I will faithfully, impartially and truly, execute 23
" the several powers and trusts vested in me by an Act, inti-
" tuled, " An Act [*Here insert the Title of this Act*] according
" to the tenor and purport of the said Act."

Which Oath any one of the said Commissioners is hereby empowered to administer to any other or others of the said Commissioners, Two or more of the said Commissioners being present; and the Secretary or Clerk to be appointed by the said Commissioners shall enter the same in a Book to be kept for that purpose.

Commission-
ers of Enquiry
empowered to
appoint Clerks,
&c.

And be it further Enacted, That the said Commissioners of Enquiry shall and may, and they are hereby authorized, by and with the consent and approbation of the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being, to appoint and employ such Secretary, Clerks, Messengers and Officers, as they shall think meet; and to administer to every of the said Secretary, Clerks and Officers,

an

an Oath for his true and faithful demeanour in all things relating to the due performance of the Trust reposed in him by the said Commissioners, and in all other things touching the premises; which Secretary, Clerks and Officers, are hereby required faithfully to execute and perform the said Trust in them severally and respectively reposed, without taking any thing for such their service, other than such Salary and Reward as the said Commissioners shall think fit to direct and appoint in that behalf, by and with such consent and approbation as aforesaid; and the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, or Lord High Treasurer of *Ireland* for the time being, are hereby authorized and required to issue and cause to be paid any sums of Money not exceeding One thousand Pounds, to such Person or Persons as the said Commissioners of Enquiry shall by writing under their hands desire or direct, out of the Consolidated Fund of *Ireland*; which sums, so issued and paid, shall be employed for the payment of the Secretary, Clerks, Messengers and other Officers, and in defraying all other necessary charges in or about the execution of the powers of this Act, so far as relates to the making the enquiries intended by this Act, and in such manner and in such proportions as shall be appointed by the said Commissioners of Enquiry, by writing under their hands and seals, in that behalf, without any fees or other charges to be taken or demanded for the issuing or payment of the same, on the passing of the Accounts thereof.

And be it further Enacted, That, for the better execution of this present Act, the said Commissioners of Enquiry, shall and may, and they are hereby authorized, to meet and sit from time to time, in such place or places within the City of *Dublin*, as they shall find most convenient, with or without adjournment; and it shall and may be lawful, as well for the Directors General of Inland Navigation hereinbefore mentioned, as also for the said Commissioners of Enquiry, to send their Precept or Precepts, under their hands and seals respectively, or the hands and seals of the majority of them respectively, for any Person or Persons whomsoever, and for such books, papers, writings or records, relating to the matters and things in this Act mentioned, or to any contracts dealings or transactions which may have taken place respecting the same, as shall be necessary for carrying into execution any of the purposes of this Act; all which Persons are hereby required and directed punctually to attend the said Directors and Commissioners respectively, at such time and times, place and places, as shall be by them respectively appointed.

And be it further Enacted, That every Person who shall at any time have been a Director or Officer of the said *Royal Canal Company*, or employed or engaged in carrying on the concerns of the said Company, or who shall have been a Proprietor or Stockholder, or a Creditor or Loanholder of the said Company, and all and every other Person and Persons whatever, who shall be summoned to appear before the said Commissioners of Enquiry, for the purposes of the Enquiry directed by this Act, shall give a true and particular account to the said Commis-

Directors General and Commissioners to send for Papers, Books and Papers.

Directors, &c. of said Company, shall account to Commissioners of Enquiry for all Money applied in the concerns of the said Company.

tioners of Enquiry appointed by this Act, whenever such Director, Officer, Proprietor, Stockholder, Creditor, Loanholder or other Person, shall be thereto required by the said Commissioners of Enquiry, of and concerning all sum and sums of Money paid or subscribed as the Stock Fund or Capital of the said Company, and of all sum and sums of Money received by or lent or advanced to the said *Royal Canal Company*, or by or to such Directors or Officers of the said Company, or 27 by or to such other person or persons, for the purpose of carrying on the said Canal, or for any purposes connected therewith, or with the conduct of the said Company, or the Directors or Officers of the said Company; and of all sum and sums of Money paid and disbursed on account of the said Canal, or otherwise, by or for the said Company, or the Directors or Officers thereof, and of all debts and loans, and of all contracts and engagements whatever, made by or for or on behalf of or relating to the said Company and the said Canal, and the terms of all such Loans, and by or from whom the same were made, and what sums were actually paid or advanced thereon, and how any sum or sums of Money received by such Loan was or were applied, and the terms of all such contracts and engagements; and shall also, when required by the said Commissioners of Enquiry, render an account of all such matters and things whatever, by any such person done for or on behalf of or relating to the said Company, and the concerns thereof, as shall or may from time to time be required by the said Commissioners of Enquiry under or by virtue of this Act.

Directors
General and
Commissioners
of Enquiry
empowered to
examine upon
Oath.

And be it further Enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the 28 said Directors General of Inland Navigation, and to and for the said Commissioners of Enquiry, and they are hereby respectively authorized and required, to examine upon Oath (or Affirmation of Persons being Quakers) which Oath or Affirmation the said Directors General and the said Commissioners of Enquiry, or any one of them respectively, are hereby authorized to administer respectively; all Persons whom the said Directors or Commissioners respectively shall find occasion to call before them to be examined, touching all matters and things necessary for the execution of the Powers vested in the said Directors and Commissioners respectively by this Act.

Warrants for
apprehending
and committing
to Prison,
Persons re-
fusing to
attend, &c.
either upon
the Directors
or Inland
Navigation
or the Com-
missioners of
Enquiry.

And be it further Enacted, That if any Person or Persons summoned to appear either before the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, or before the said Commissioners of Enquiry respectively, for the purposes of this Act, shall wilfully neglect or refuse to appear before the said Directors or Commissioners respectively, or to bring or produce any 29 Accounts, Books, Papers, Writings or Records, relating to any of the matters and things hereinbefore mentioned, or to any Contracts, Dealings or Transactions respecting the same, or any of them, which shall be in his her or their possession custody or power, and which he she or they shall have been required by such Summons to produce; or shall refuse to be sworn (or being Quakers shall refuse to affirm) or being sworn (or being Quakers having affirmed) shall refuse to answer to and before the said Directors or Commissioners respectively, re-
specting

pecting any question on oath or affirmation, touching or concerning any matter or thing relating to the several matters and things before mentioned, or any Contracts, Dealings or Transactions relating thereto, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, and for the said Commissioners of Enquiry respectively, and they are hereby respectively authorized and empowered, to make and issue their Warrant or Warrants respectively, under their hands and seals or under the hands and seals of the majority of them respectively, for taking and apprehending any such Person, and committing him or her to such Prison as the said Directors or Commissioners respectively, shall think fit; there to remain without bail or mainprize until he or she shall submit to be examined touching and concerning all matters and things necessary for the execution of the powers given by this Act, or to make such production as aforesaid, as the case may be: Provided always, that no Person shall be compellable to answer any Question, the Answer to which may criminate or tend to criminate such Person, or to expose such Person to any Pains or Penalties.

And be it further Enacted, That the Commissioners for auditing Public Accounts in *Ireland*, shall once in every year, or oftener if the said Commissioners shall think proper, or the Lord Lieutenant or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland* for the time being shall direct the same, examine into the Expenditure of all Sums which shall at any time have been advanced, paid or expended under this Act, and settle and audit the Accounts of all Persons concerned therein.

Commissioners for auditing Accounts, shall examine Accounts under this Act.

And be it further Enacted, That in case any Person, upon examination upon oath (or being a Quaker upon affirmation) before the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, or before the said Commissioners of Enquiry, or any Three or more of them respectively, as before-mentioned, shall wilfully and corruptly give false Evidence, any such Person so offending and being thereof duly convicted, shall be and is hereby declared to be subject and liable to such pains and penalties as Persons convicted of wilful and corrupt Perjury are or shall from time to time be subject and liable to by Law in *Ireland*.

Penalty of Perjury on false Evidence.

And be it further Enacted, That if any Person, being a Commissioner of Enquiry appointed under or by virtue of this Act, or any of the said Directors General of Inland Navigation, shall ask, take, accept or exact any Fee or Reward whatsoever, for or on account of any thing done or to be done under or by virtue of this Act, or on any account whatever, relating to the putting in execution of this Act and the Enquiry hereby directed; or if any such Person being such Commissioner or Director shall in any way directly or indirectly, be interested in any Contract or Bargain made or to be made with respect to the continuing or carrying on the Works of the said Navigation from *Dublin* to *Tarmonbarry*, or with respect to the Tolls, Rates or Duties payable in respect of the said Navigation, or in any Contract whatever with respect to any matters or things relating to the said Navigation from *Dublin* to *Tarmonbarry* as aforesaid;

Penalty on any Commissioners for taking Fees or Rewards, or being concerned in Contracts, &c.

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or if any Person being such Commissioner or Director shall be a surety for any Person entering into any such Contract or holding any Office under or by virtue of this Act; every such Person so offending shall be rendered disabled and incapable of being a Commissioner of Enquiry under this Act, or a Director General of Inland Navigation; and shall also forfeit the sum of Five hundred Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same, by action of debt, bill, plaint or information, or in His Majesty's Courts of Record in *Ireland*, within Three Months after the offence committed; in which suit no escape, privilege, protection or wager of law, nor more than one imparlance shall be allowed.

Limitation of
Actions.

And be it further Enacted, That no Action shall be brought against any Director General of Inland Navigation or any Commissioner of Enquiry appointed or to be appointed by or under this Act, or any other Person or Persons whomsoever, for any matter or thing whatsoever done or committed under or by virtue or in the execution of this Act, unless 33 such Action shall be brought within Six calendar months next after the doing or committing such matter or thing; and if any Action or Suit shall be hereafter commenced or prosecuted against any Person or Persons, for any matter or thing done under, by virtue or in the execution of this Act, such Person or Persons may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in evidence; and if the Plaintiff shall become nonsuited, or suffer discontinuance, or forbear further prosecution, or if Judgment shall be given for the Defendant or Defendants, such Defendant or Defendants shall recover Double Costs, for which he she or they shall have the like Remedy as where Costs by Law are given to Defendants.

Double Costs.

Continuance
of Act.

And be it further Enacted, That this Act shall continue in force until the Twenty-fifth day of March one thousand eight hundred and fourteen; and from thence to the end of the then next Session of Parliament.

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SESS. 1812-13.

(Ireland.)

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[AS AMENDED BY THE COMMITTEE]

TO

To dissolve the Corporation of the *Royal Canal Company in Ireland*; and to amend the provisions for enquiring into and assisting the Claims of the Creditors of the said Company, and other matters relating to the said Company; and to provide for carrying on and completing the Canal from *Dublin* to *Terranure* on the River *Shannon*.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be printed,
23 June 1813.